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**Ex Parte**

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: *Procedures for Commission Review of State Opt-Out Requests from the FirstNet Radio Access Network, PS Docket No. 16-269***

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Monday, the Colorado Public Safety Broadband Governing Body (“CPSBGB”) requested that the Commission address a number of important issues regarding the potential lack of interoperability between FirstNet and other service providers. Interoperability between and among all first responders, regardless of the network they use, is vitally important, and promoting interoperability was one of the principal reasons Congress established FirstNet. It is important that industry standards and agreements between network providers, equipment vendors, and application developers ensure that interoperability objectives are achieved. Verizon supports the development of such standards and agreements, and looks forward to working with FirstNet, AT&T, the public safety community, and others in the industry, to achieve those goals. Interoperability should be supported across the entire public safety ecosystem and should include interoperability for services, applications, and features (e.g., priority and preemption protocols) used by first responders. The Commission should seek input on this important matter from other public safety agencies and interested stakeholders by placing CPSBGB’s request on Public Notice as soon as possible.

This letter is submitted in accordance with Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission’s rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b). Please contact me if there are questions concerning this filing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert G. Morse". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.